



VAMPI  
#4  
APRIL

# VAMPIRELLA

Does This Strange Girl represent the forces of Good or Evil? See Page 5

A WARREN MAGAZINE POC





# VAMPIRELLA

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PROLOGUE: ZODI PULLED BACK ON THE REING OF HER KOG, LOOKING ONCE TO CHECK THE WEAPON NEXT TO HER. ONCE BEFORE, A KRAKATON MONSTER HAD ATTACKED HER IN THIS REGION. ONCE BEFORE, SHE HAD BEEN READY FOR IT....



HER JOURNEY BROUGHT HER NO COMFORT-

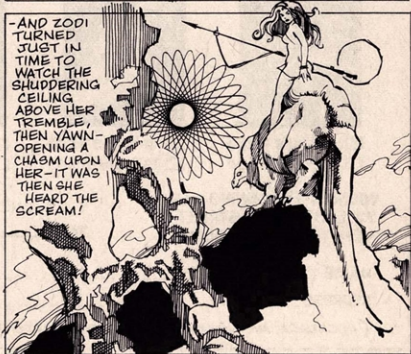


-FROM THE DOOM OF A WORLD SLOWLY DYING. EVEN HER WHIMS OF HOPE COULD NOT CONCEAL THE TRUTH... THERE WAS NO ESCAPE FROM ULUPHON! YET, EVEN IN THE REFUGE OF THIS WORLD, ZODI COULD NOT DENY HERSELF THE EXISTENCE OF OTHERS....

...SOMEWHERE IN THE CONSTELLATIONS OUTSIDE OF ULUPHON, SHE KNEW OTHER LIFE WAITED. RUMBLING INTERRUPTED HER THOUGHTS...



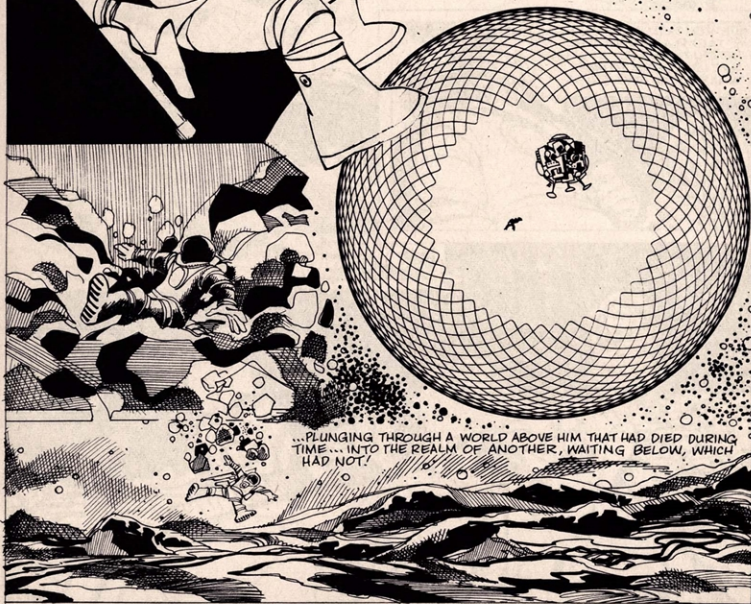
-AND ZODI TURNED JUST IN TIME TO WATCH THE SHUDDERING CEILING ABOVE HER TREMBLE, THEN YAWN-OPENING A CHASM UPON HER-IT WAS THEN SHE HEARD THE SCREAM!



SWING-IN TO MY THING-IN... **VAMPIRELLA-TIVES!**... AND SWING-OUT OF REALITY AS I STEER FOR SOME FEAR THAT'LL FOCUS YOUR POCUS ON **FANTASY!** BUT BE CAREFUL, YOUR GOGGLES MIGHT FOGGLE IN THE BOGGLE OF A...

# FORGOTTEN KINGDOM

NOW AS HE PROBED THE SCREEN OF HIS LIFE-DETECT FINDER, ONLY THE UNINTERRUPTED SCAN OF THE GLOWING BEAM FILLED HIS EYES. BALANCE REMOVED ITSELF AS THE BRITTLE SURFACE BENEATH HIM CRUMBLLED AND SENT HIM FALLING....

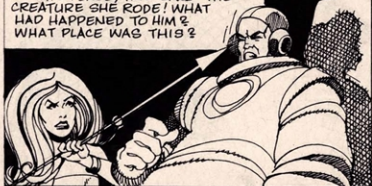


...PLUNGING THROUGH A WORLD ABOVE HIM THAT HAD DIED DURING TIME... INTO THE REALM OF ANOTHER, WAITING BELOW, WHICH HAD NOT!





WE REMEMBERED FALLING .... BUT THIS PLACE, THIS GIRL - THE CREATURE SHE RODE! WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM & WHAT PLACE WAS THIS ?



I MUST CONVINCE HER I MEAN NO HARM. DISCOVERING LIFE HERE MEANG TOO MUCH TO MY WORLD...





A SNARLING THREAT SUDDENLY SNAPPED INTO ACTION—SHE SAW FOR AN INSTANT THE QUIVERING FORM OF THE BEAST AS IT READIED ITS LEAP. **KRAKATON!**

THERE WAS NO TIME TO ACT BEYOND REFLEX!

LOST MY RIFLE BACK AT THE CAVE-IN... BUT I CAN STILL USE.....



YOU HAVE SAVED MY LIFE, MAN-CREATURE! IF I AM TO OWE IT TO YOU, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW YOUR NAME.

I COME FROM A GALAXY MANY STARS FROM THIS PLACE--OTHERS LIKE ME HAVE SEARCHED EONS FOR LIFE BEYOND OURS. THERE, I AM CALLED KEIFER...



I AM ZODI, CITIZEN AND SERVANT, AS ALL OF US ARE, OF THE TEMPLE OF ONE. WHEN WE RETURN I WILL SPEAK FOR YOU.

--AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME, ZODI, WHEN WE REACH YOUR TEMPLE?

THAT MUST BE DECIDED BY THE TEMPLE OF ONE! SHE KNOWS ALREADY OF YOUR POWERS





THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN A MAN BEFORE, ONE CALLED KEIFER. TO THEM, YOU ARE ALMOST UNKNOWN.



NO MEN--? BUT HOW THEN DO THEY EXIST?



COME CLOSER, KEIFER-I HAVE HEARD OF YOUR GREAT POWERS, AND HOW YOU DESTROYED THE DREADED KRAKATON!



IT WAS A GESTURE WHICH CAN ONLY MEAN YOU HAVE COME IN PEACE. SPEAK, KEIFER!



GREAT TEMPLE OF ONE, THERE IS MUCH YOUR PEOPLE AND MINE CAN DO FOR EACH OTHER. IN MY WORLD, HOPE OF FINDING OTHER LIFE FORMS HAS ALWAYS ENDED IN FAILURE.

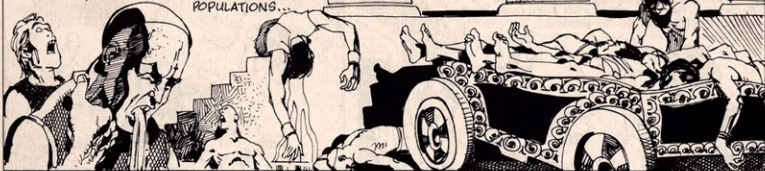


ALL THE SECRETS--ALL THE PLEASURES OF MY WORLD CAN BE YOURS! SURELY, WE WILL BE ABLE TO HELP ONE ANOTHER!



YOU HAVE NOTICED, THEN, THERE ARE NO MEN HERE ON UULPHON? ALMOST TWO HUNDRED YEARS AGO, ALL LIFE ON THE SURFACE OF THIS PLANET FACED EXTINCTION....

A PLAGUE BROUGHT BACK TO ULUPHON FROM A  
DISTANT CONSTELLATION OUR GOVERNMENT  
EXPLORED, SUDDENLY DESTROYED WHOLE  
POPULATIONS...



...EVERYWHERE PEOPLE DIED WITHOUT  
WITHOUT CAUSE WE COULD CURE -



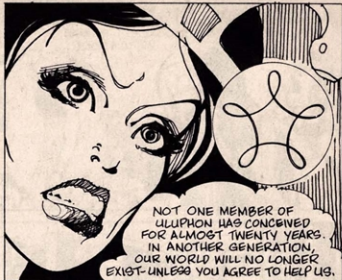
-WE SOON LEARNED THAT ONLY  
MEN WERE DYING. FOR SOME  
REASON, NO WOMEN FELT ANY  
EFFECTS OTHER THAN TEMPORARY  
BLINDNESS. AND WHILE THEY  
STUMBLED HELPLESSLY  
ABOUT IN A WORLD  
THAT WAS DOOMED -



-THE LAST MAN ON OUR PLANET  
SUCCUMBED TO THE FATAL DISEASE.  
THOSE OF US WHO SURVIVED,  
BURNED OUR CITIES AND FLED TO  
THE SAFETY OF OUR INNER WORLD...



ALTHOUGH WE WERE ABLE TO SYNTHETICALLY REPRODUCE OUR OFFSPRING, NONE OF THOSE CHILDREN WERE MALE. GRADUALLY, OUR SYSTEMS BECAME INFECTED WITH THE TOXIC INGREDIENTS NEEDED TO SPAWN.



NOT ONE MEMBER OF ULUPHON HAS CONCEIVED FOR ALMOST TWENTY YEARS. IN ANOTHER GENERATION, OUR WORLD WILL NO LONGER EXIST—UNLESS YOU AGREE TO HELP US.

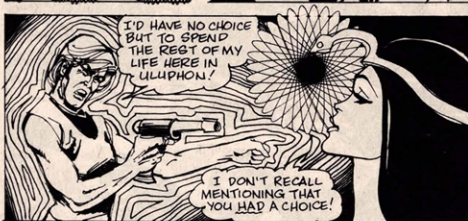
SUDDENLY, THE GLOWING EDGES OF THE LIGHT AROUND HIM SOFTENED INTO A BLUR THAT WAS BLINKING HIS MIND SHUT. HIS HEAD FELT SQUEEZED OF BALANCE.

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS! WHY—A THING LIKE THAT WOULD TAKE ... Y-YEARS!



I'D HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE HERE IN ULUPHON!

I DON'T RECALL MENTIONING THAT YOU HAD A CHOICE!

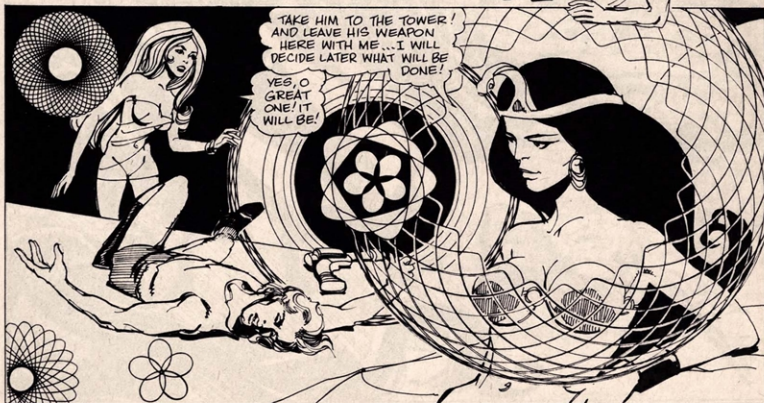


THE LAST REFLEX OF HIS BODY VANISHED INTO A WHIRLING EXPLOSION OF BLACK—JUST BEFORE HIS EYES SHUT THE PIERCING AGONY FROM HIS SENSES.



TAKE HIM TO THE TOWER! AND LEAVE HIS WEAPON HERE WITH ME... I WILL DECIDE LATER WHAT WILL BE DONE!

YES, O GREAT ONE! IT WILL BE!



AS TENS OF THOUGHTS FLASHED INTO HIS MIND, KEIFER'S EYES DRAINED THE ROOM IN QUICK SWALLONS HE TRIED TO FOCUS. HIS WEAPON WAS GONE!



VERY INGENUOUS-  
NO DOORS, NO  
WINDOWS... NO  
ESCAPE!



IT LOOKS  
LIKE I'M  
HERE FOR  
KEEPS-  
WH...?



NOT IF YOU TRUST  
ME, KEIFER! HERE  
IS YOUR WEAPON-  
I TOOK IT FROM  
TEMPLE OF ONE!

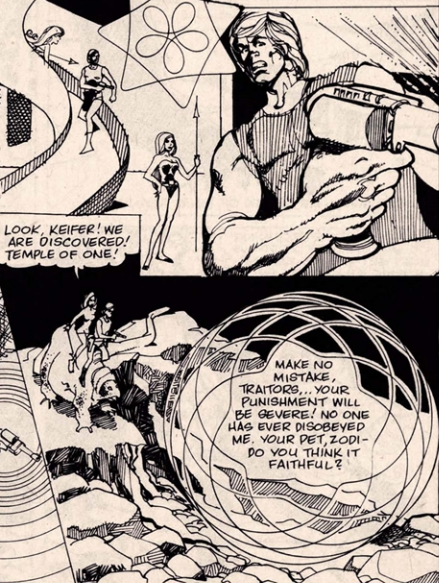
IF I TAKE YOU BACK WHERE I  
FOUND YOU, CAN YOU FIND YOUR  
WAY BACK  
TO THE SHIP?  
I'M SURE I CAN-  
BUT YOU'RE COMING  
BACK WITH ME!



NOW IF THEY COULD ONLY SLIP  
IN PAST  
THE TEMPLE OF ONE!

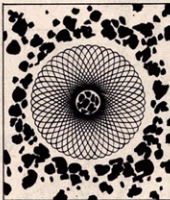
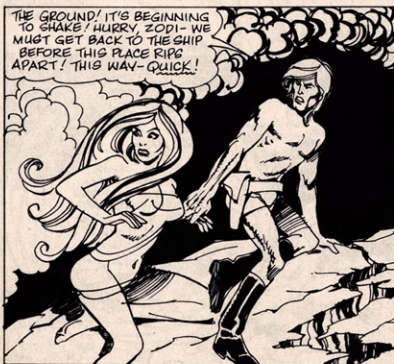
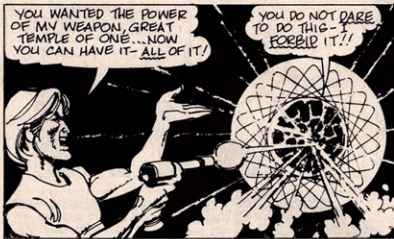
LOOK, KEIFER! WE  
ARE DISCOVERED!  
TEMPLE OF ONE!

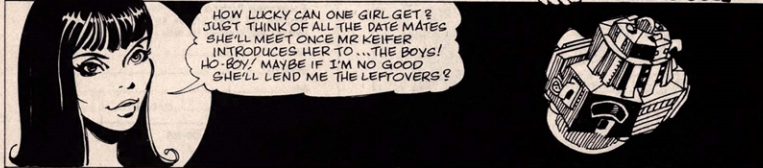
CRAWLING TINGLES PINCHED KEIFER'S  
SPINE AS HE LEVELLED HIS DISIN-  
TEGRATOR AT THE GIRL GUARDS...  
HE'D NEVER KILLED A WOMAN BEFORE!



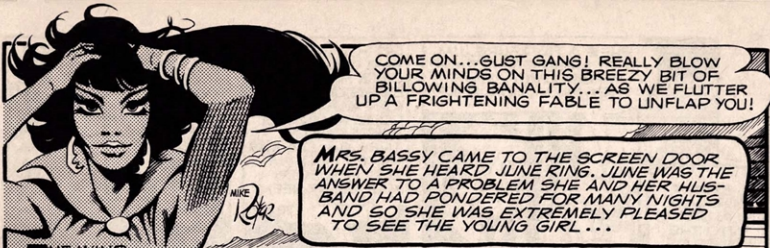
MAKE NO  
MISTAKE,  
TRAITORS... YOUR  
PUNISHMENT WILL  
BE SEVERE! NO ONE  
HAS EVER DISOBEYED  
ME. YOUR PET, ZODI-  
DO YOU THINK IT  
FAITHFUL?











MRS. BASSY CAME TO THE SCREEN DOOR WHEN SHE HEARD JUNE RING. JUNE WAS THE ANSWER TO A PROBLEM SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAD PONDERED FOR MANY NIGHTS AND SO SHE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED TO SEE THE YOUNG GIRL...

THE WIND WAS A GOOD PLAYMATE TODAY. IT SHIFTED THE SAND GENTLY FOR LITTLE OLIVEGARD AND TOLD HER OF MISS HYLAND'S ARRIVAL. IT ALSO WHISPERED THAT OLIVEGARD WAS TO BE ESPECIALLY NICE TO HER AND OBEY HER ALWAYS BECAUSE THE TWO OF THEM WERE GOING TO BE VERY CLOSE. IN FACT THEY WOULD SOON BECOME...

GOOD AFTERNOON, MRS. BASSY. I'M JUNE HYLAND, THE GOVERNESS FOR OLIVEGARD.



OF COURSE JUNE, WON'T YOU COME IN?



# CLOSER THAN SISTERS

...YOU WILL FIND THAT OLIVEGARD HAS BECOME A LONELY, BROODING CHILD. THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE CONSIDERING THAT SHE IS THE ONLY SURVIVOR OF AN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT,

THAT TOOK THE LIVES OF HER MOTHER AND FATHER. WE ARE HOPING THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CHANGE THAT!



OLIVEGARD! I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN. THIS IS YOUR NEW GOVERNESS, MISS HYLAND.

THE WIND HAS TOLD ME OF YOUR COMING.



I KNOW. PLEASE CALL ME JUNE.

SHE'S A TREASURE, JIM. THEY LIKED EACH OTHER IMMEDIATELY. WHY, THEY EVEN LOOK ALIKE!

A BRIGHT ORANGE SUN DROPS INTO THE WAVES OF A SEA THAT HAS LOST ITS MID-DAY VIGOR. MR. BASSY HAS RETURNED FROM WORK.

THEY LOOK ALIKE?

DO YOU RECALL THAT OLIVEGARD ONCE HAD AN OLDER SISTER WHO RAN AWAY FROM HOME WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD? THEY SAY SHE WAS KILLED IN CHINA, BUT HER BODY HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND.

SISTERS! JIM... DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT JUNE SUSPECTS ANYTHING?

IF YOU MEAN ABOUT THE ACCIDENT... FOR HER SAKE, I HOPE NOT!

DON'T WORRY! WE'LL HAVE THE ENTIRE WEEK-END TO FIND OUT EXACTLY WHO SHE IS, AND WHAT SHE KNOWS. LET'S GET SOME SLEEP.

SILENTLY THE NIGHT COVERS THE BEACH, AND LIKE A TINY APPARITION, OLIVEGARD STEALS THROUGH THE HOUSE... CLUTCHED IN HER SMALL WHITE FINGERS A LEAN WEAPON IN SEARCH OF A HEART TO MURDER!

THERE IS NO ANGER IN HER INNOCENT FACE. SHE IS UNAWARE OF HER HORRIBLE DEED!

...HUH...?

OLIVEGARD! DON'T...!

SHE TRIED TO KILL ME! SHE WAS STANDING THERE WITH THAT KNIFE!

I'LL TAKE HER TO MY ROOM, MRS. BASSY. SHE WON'T BOTHER YOU AGAIN TONIGHT.

SHE WAS ONLY SLEEPWALKING!



SHE KNOWS WE'RE  
AFTER OLIVEGARD'S  
INHERITANCE.  
THEY'RE TRYING  
TO MURDER US!

WE'RE SMARTER THAN  
THEY ARE, MY DEAR,  
TOMORROW, WHILE I'M  
IN TOWN, TAKE THE  
LITTLE ONE FOR A  
SWIM. MAKE SURE SHE  
DOESN'T COME BACK!

JUNE DEAR, I THINK WE COULD  
ALL USE SOME LEMONADE. WHY DON'T  
YOU MAKE SOME FOR US?

OF  
COURSE.

**T**HE BREEZES  
WERE SOFT  
AND STEADY  
THAT DAY...  
COMING  
FROM INLAND  
INSTEAD OF  
FROM THE  
OCEAN. THE  
SEA GULLS  
CIRCLED...  
WAITING THE  
ACT THE  
WIND HAD  
TOLD THEM  
WAS GOING  
TO HAPPEN.

THE WAVES ARE SO  
BEAUTIFUL BY THE JETTIES,  
BUT BE CAREFUL YOU DON'T  
SLIP ON THE SEAWEED.

THE WET PAIL SLIPS  
FROM OLIVEGARD'S  
FINGERS...

**S**UDDENLY THE WIND ROSE AND  
BROUGHT MRS. BASSY'S DEATH  
CRY TO JUNE'S WAITING EARS. A  
SHIVER ASCENDED FROM JUNE'S  
HEART AND PASSED THROUGH HER  
LIPS TO LEAVE BEHIND A PERFECT  
MONA LISA SMILE...

WHEN JIM RETURNED HOME NONE OF THE LIGHTS WERE WORKING. HE WAS RELIEVED... MOONLIGHT SUITED HIS CRIME PERFECTLY.

FOR NEARLY AN HOUR JIM BASSY STOOD OVER HIS WIFE'S GRAVE GATHERING THE COURAGE HE NEEDED TO RETURN HOME. FOR MARTHA IT HAD ENDED. BUT FOR HIM, THE RUTHLESS TASK OF VENGEANCE STILL REMAINED! NOW HE WANTED OLIVEGARD'S LIFE MORE THAN HER MONEY!

OLIVEGARD? JUNE?  
ARE YOU ABOUT?

UPSTAIRS,  
UNCLE  
JIM!

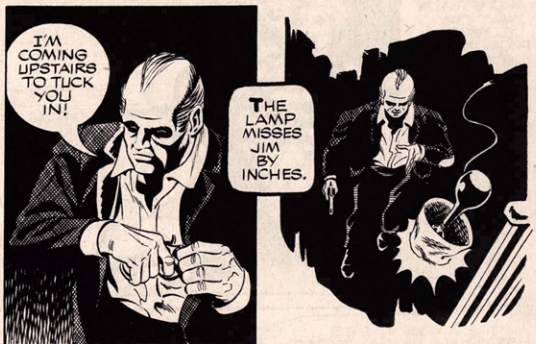
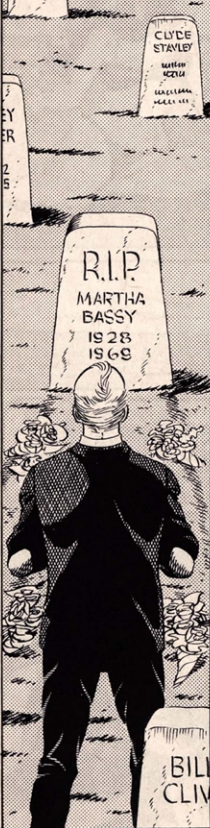
I'M  
COMING  
UPSTAIRS  
TO TUCK  
YOU  
IN!

THE  
LAMP  
MISSES  
JIM  
BY  
INCHES.

IN THE DIM LIGHT, JIM MISTAKES A ROLLING BEACH BALL FOR HIS RUNNING NEICE, AND EMPTIES HIS REVOLVER INTO IT!

HA! HA! HA! HA! NO MORE BULLETS UNCLE JIM?

OLIVEGARD'S  
LAUGHTER  
ECHOED  
THROUGHOUT  
THE ROOM.  
JIM'S EYES  
SEARCHED  
INSTEAD  
THE RUSTLING  
OF THE  
CURTAIN!





I CAME  
BACK FOR  
YOU, MY  
DARLING  
NIECE, BUT  
FIRST I  
MUST  
ATTEND  
TO YOUR...  
SISTER!

JIM DUG  
TWO GRAVES  
THAT NIGHT,  
BUT ONLY  
ONE WAS  
DESTINED  
TO BE  
USED...



IT NEEDS  
TO BE  
DEEPER!



THOK!



FIRST THERE  
WAS  
AWARENESS,  
THEN  
AWARENESS  
OF DARKNESS.  
SLOWLY, HE  
BEGAN TO  
FEEL THE  
DAMP SAND  
PACKED  
TIGHTLY  
ABOUT HIS  
BODY AND  
HE  
REALIZED  
HE COULD  
NOT MOVE!  
AS HIS  
VISION  
CLEARED  
JIM SAW  
THE  
MOONLIGHT  
REFLECTING  
FROM THE  
POOLS OF  
SAND...CLOSE  
TO HIS  
FACE—MUCH  
TO CLOSE!

OH! MY GOD!  
NO! NO!







COME OLD FRIEND! IT IS I, OLIVEGARD, WITCH OF THE WINDS!

TAKE ME ON ONE LAST JOURNEY BEFORE YOU ARE GONE.

THE OBEDIENT WIND SWIRLS ABOUT ITS MISTRESS AND CARRIES HER THROUGH SPACE AND TIME, TO THE OMNI-PRESENT WIND, SPACE AND TIME HAVE NO BARRIERS.

BUT THE JOURNEY DOES NOT END WHERE OLIVEGARD EXPECTS IT TO!

THERE'S BEEN A MISTAKE! WHAT AM I DOING HERE? LET ME OUT!

TSK TSK ... WHAT A PITY. WE WERE MAKING SUCH PROGRESS AND THEN SHE SUDDENLY REVERTED BACK TO THAT ABSURD STORY ABOUT THE WIND AND TRAVELING BACK THRU TIME TO VISIT HERSELF AS A LITTLE GIRL. COMPLETELY INSANE!

WHAT IS HER HISTORY, DR. KLEY?

SHE WAS COMMITTED HERE WHEN SHE WAS EIGHT YEARS OLD FOR MURDERING HER AUNT AND UNCLE. SHE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE GOTTEN AWAY WITH IT IF HER OLDER SISTER HADN'T TOLD US WHAT HAPPENED.

SHE DISSAPPEARED RIGHT AFTER THAT HERSELF. NO ONE'S HEARD OF HER SINCE!

HOPE THAT STIRRED UP A STAGGERING SURPRISE OR TWO... TO AS-SAIL YOUR FRAIL SENSE OF IMAGINATION!

AND YOU THOUGHT THAT DRAUGHT WAS GOING TO BE A BREEZE?

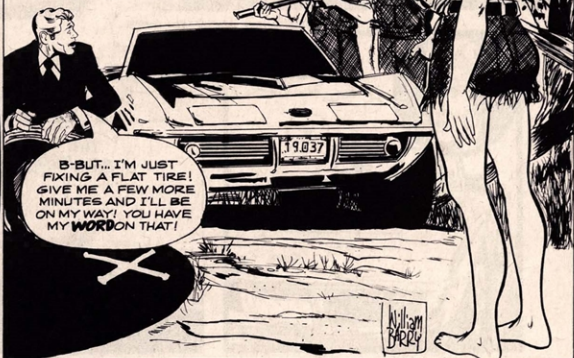
C'MON IN NAYBERS  
...AND SET A SPELL!  
WE'UNS GOIN UPPIN!  
THE OZARKS AND  
HAVE US A GOOD OL'  
TIME UP IN THEM  
THAR HILLS! MAYBE  
GIT ON THE OL' MULE  
AN RIDE OUT FER  
A DEE-LISHUS  
BOTTLE OF HOOTCH  
IN OTHER WORDS  
A KEG OF...

# MOONSHINE!

PAUL KLUG JUST WANTED  
TO FIX HIS FLAT AS FAST  
AS POSSIBLE! THE  
OZARKS DIDN'T OFFER MUCH  
BUSSINESS TO A SALES-  
MAN... AND PEOPLE IN  
THESE PARTS DIDN'T CARE  
TOO MUCH FOR SALESMEN!  
BUT HE HAD TO GO THIS WAY  
TO REACH THE BIG CITY!

ALL RIGHT, YOUNG  
FELLER! DON'T YOU  
MAKE NO MOVE! OR WE  
GONNA VENTILATE  
YA!

LEM'S RIGHT  
MISTER, JUST  
HOLDER RIGHT  
THERE!

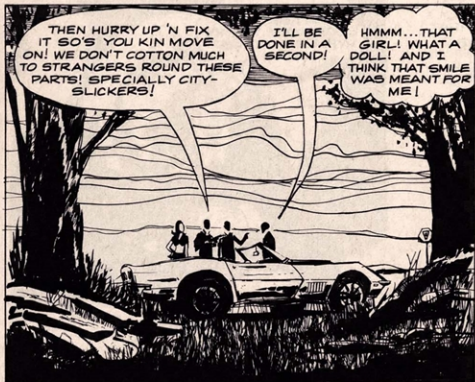


THEN HURRY UP 'N FIX  
IT SO'S YOU KIN MOVE  
ON! WE DON'T COTTON MUCH  
TO STRANGERS ROUND THESE  
PARTS! SPECIALLY CITY-  
SLICKERS!

I'LL BE  
DONE IN A  
SECOND!

HMMM... THAT  
GIRL! WHAT A  
DOLL! AND I  
THINK THAT SMILE  
WAS MEANT FOR  
ME!

YES, SIR! I SURE WOULD  
LIKE TO HANG AROUND A  
WHILE AND FOLLOW THAT UP!  
BUT I'VE GOT MY LIFE TO  
THINK ABOUT FIRST!





OK, FELLER, FINISH WHAT  
YO'RE A-DOIN! BUT REMEMBER,  
IFFEN WE FIND YUH HERE WHEN WE  
COME BACK, YO'RE HAD'S GONNA  
GIT BLOWED CLEAR OFF.

NICE FELLOWS

ALL RIGHT! I  
WOUNT BE LONG!  
AND THANKS AGAIN!

SOMETHING ABOUT HER EYES...  
THOSE BIG, BEAUTIFUL  
GREEN EYES! THEY REMINDED  
ME SOMEHOW OF A...  
**GOOD LORD... WHAT?!**

?

**THE  
BRAKES!**

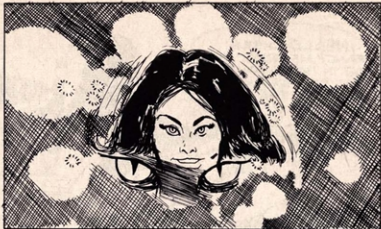
SSKREECH

THAT WAS CLOSE! I SHOULD  
HAVE JUST RUN YOU OVER! THAT  
WOULD'VE SERVED YOU RIGHT,  
'CAUSE I COULD HAVE DITCHED MY  
CAR ON ACCOUNT OF YOU!  
AND... THATS STRANGE!

IT'S EYES...  
I CAN'T SEEM TO  
LOOK AWAY... THEY'RE  
HYPNOTIC, ALMOST  
LIKE...

THE JOB COMPLETED, PAUL KLUG  
MOVES ON, THOUGHTS OF BUSINESS  
SOMEHOW ELIMINATED BY A  
RECURRING VISION...

I JUST CAN'T GET  
HER OUT OF MY MIND!  
THERE'S SOMETHING  
ALLURING ABOUT HER...  
SOMETHING MYSTERIOUS  
I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY  
FINGER ON!

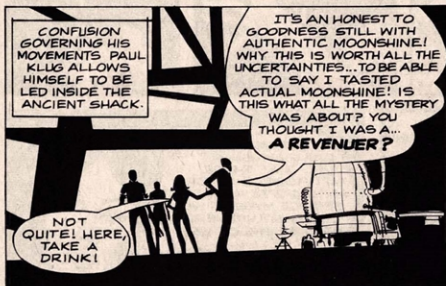













END



THERE'S A LITTLE SECRET MY ADOPTED UNCLE AND COUSIN ARE TRYING TO HUSH UP— THEY'D HAVE US BELIEVE ALL THE FRANKENSTEIN WERE MEN! LOOK INTO MY EYES, DEVILISH DARLINGS, AND I'LL TELL THE TALE OF A *LADY* MONSTER-MAKER, WHO DIED...

# "FOR THE LOVE OF FRANKENSTEIN"

THE LABORATORY HAD BEEN BUILT WITH THE FORTUNE THE FRANKENSTEINS LEFT THE KROLLECKS, THEIR ONLY HEIRS. AND THE LAST DR. KROLLEK USED THE MONEY TO CARRY ON THE RESEARCH.

KTAK  
KTAK

IT MUST WORK THIS TIME! ALL THESE FAILURES HAVE TO LEAD SOMEWHERE!

IT WAS THE SEVENTH ATTEMPT! EVEN THE VAST FORTUNE OF FRANKENSTEINS COULDN'T SUSTAIN ANY MORE.

THE ELECTRODES HAVE BURNT OUT! THE EXPERIMENT HAS FAILED AGAIN, DR. KROLLEK.

DON'T USE THAT CONDESCENDING TONE WITH ME, DR. HOFFSTEIN! THE FAILURE IS UNDOUBTEDLY DUE TO THE DECAYED BRAIN YOU BROUGHT ME.

DISAPPOINTMENT HAD HARDENED HEDVIG KROLLEK. NOW A BITTER SELFISH WOMAN, HER RESEARCH WAS ALL SHE LIVED FOR.



DR. KROLLEK--  
I MEAN, HEDVIG  
-- WHY DO YOU  
CONTINUE WITH  
THESE EXPERI-  
MENTS? THEY  
CAN LEAD TO  
YOUR DESTRUCTION,  
MY DEAR.

ERIC, DO NOT CALL  
ME YOUR "DEAR."  
ALL PERSONAL  
INVOLVEMENT WE  
MIGHT HAVE HAD,  
HAS BEEN LONG  
SINCE ENDED. I  
CANNOT TOLERATE  
YOUR PHYSICAL  
APPEARANCE ANY  
LONGER!

ERIC REMEMBERED AS  
MEDICAL STUDENTS SHE  
HAD LOVED HIM, FOR THE  
POWER AND THE GRACE  
OF HIS AGILE MIND. BUT  
NOW, SHE SAW  
ONLY HIS  
FLAWS.

I KNOW WHAT  
YOU THINK OF  
ME NOW, HEDVIG,  
BUT PLEASE LISTEN  
-- I AM ONLY  
TRYING TO HELP!  
WHAT YOU ARE  
DOING IS NOT  
ONLY ILLEGAL,  
IT IS-- IS  
**WRONG** IN A  
MONSTROUS  
SENSE. REMEMBER  
THE LESSON OF  
YOUR GRAND-  
UNCLE, DR.  
FRANKENSTEIN--  
HE DIED  
BECAUSE OF  
**HIS** EXPERIMENTS!

ERIC, YOU ARE  
A TWISTED, DIS-  
TORTED WORM.  
I KEEP YOU  
HERE WITH ME  
FOR TWO REASONS  
ONLY-- YOU ARE  
AN EXCEPTIONALLY  
ABLE SURGEON,  
AND YOU AMUSE  
ME!

HEDVIG--!

ALL RIGHT, HEDVIG-- BUT  
ONCE YOU LOVED ME, AND  
I SHALL LOVE **YOU** FOR THAT  
UNTIL I DIE. FOR THAT IS  
MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE  
HAS EVER GIVEN ME.

I MUST TREAT HIM  
MORE KINDLY-- NO ONE  
ELSE WOULD DO  
WHAT I ASK OF HIM,  
THE LITTLE CREATURE'S  
DEVOTION IS MY MOST  
VALUABLE INSTRUMENT.

THEY WATCHED FOR  
THE SEVENTH TIME WHILE  
THE FLAME CONSUMED  
THEIR WORK.

THE STORM  
SEEMED TO  
HAVE STOPPED.  
ERIC, THIS IS  
VERY GOOD  
WINE.

YES, HEDVIG.  
IT IS FROM  
MY PRIVATE  
STOCK,  
REMEMBER?

HEDVIG REAL-  
IZED THAT SHE  
NEEDED ERIC  
TO OBTAIN  
YET ANOTHER  
BODY. SHE  
KNEW WHAT  
SHE HAD TO  
DO TO GET  
IT.

ERIC, MY DARLING,  
YOU KNOW WHAT I  
WANT YOU TO DO,  
DON'T YOU?

YES, YES,  
HEDVIG, I  
DO KNOW,  
AND I  
SHALL  
NOT DO  
THAT  
AGAIN.

ERIC REALIZED THAT HE WOULD EVENTUALLY GIVE IN TO HEDVIG'S DEMANDS, BUT HE KNEW WHAT HE COULD EVENTUALLY GET BY CONTINUING TO REFUSE --AND HIS DESIRE SICKENED HIM. YET THIS GAME RECURRED EVERY FEW WEEKS--AND IT WAS ALL ERIC LIVED FOR!



ERIC, MY DEAREST..



AND NOW THE GAME HAS ITS CONCLUSION. AND WHO WINS? I WONDER...

THE NEXT EVENING...

PUT THE BODY IN THE PANEL TRUCK

YOU'LL LIKE THIS ONE, DOCT--I MEAN, MR. SMITH.



THERE WERE ALWAYS SHADY MERCHANTS WHO WOULD SELL BODIES SO BATTERED BY AUTO WRECKS THAT A WAX DUMMY HAD TO BE PLACED IN THE COFFIN INSTEAD.

I AM GOING TO PUT A STOP TO THIS WHEN I GET BACK. SHE CAN CONTROL ME LIKE A PUPPET--I MUST STOP IT! I **AM** A MAN, NO MATTER WHAT SHE OR ANYONE ELSE THINKS.



BUT HOFFSTEIN KNEW IN HIS SOUL THAT AS LONG AS HEDVIG SHARED HERSELF WITH HIM, EVEN IN THEIR BIZARRE FASHION, HE **WOULD** BE HER SLAVE. THAT IS, UNLESS SOMETHING UTTERLY NEW OCCURRED...

MUST THEY ALWAYS BE SO DAMAGED? BUT THIS ONE--ONLY THE BODY IS INJURED! THE BRAIN AND SPINE ARE INTACT!



HEDVIG, WE MUST STOP THIS! YOU'RE A GENIUS-- YOU CAN DO OTHER, MORE CONSTRUCTIVE--

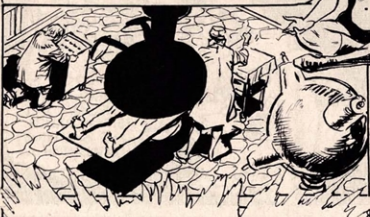
SHUT UP, WORM! IF YOU THINK WHAT HAPPENED LAST NIGHT HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH REALITY, YOU'RE SADLY MISTAKEN. LET'S GO TO WORK.





ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT AND INTO THE MORNING THEY WORKED. HEDVIG, DRIVEN BY A DESIRE BEYOND PHYSICAL NEEDS, ERIC BY HIS DISTORTED LOVE FOR THE ONLY WOMAN WHO HAD EVER SHOWN HIM ANY KINDNESS.

THE BODY WAS NOW ASSEMBLED. ALL THAT REMAINED TO BE DONE... WAS THE INJECTION OF DR. FRANKENSTEIN'S SPECIAL SERUM, THE IGNITION OF THE ULTRAVIOLET RAY GENERATOR, AND THE STARTING OF THE POWERFUL GENERATORS.



I'M AFRAID THE CURRENT WAS TOO MUCH FOR THE BRAIN, DR. KROLLEK! IT'S DEAD, THOUGH THE BODY LIVES!

YOU HAVE PROVED YOU CAN DO IT-- NOW LET ME KILL IT IT IS TOO HIDEOUS TO LIVE.

I WON'T STOP NOW, ERIC! IT WILL LIVE AND IT WILL THINK!

WE NEED A NEW BRAIN...

LET'S HAVE SOME WINE, ERIC!

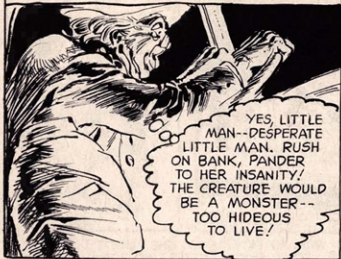
LET'S NOT PLAY THAT LITTLE GAME AGAIN!

I'LL GET THE BRAIN FOR YOU HEDVIG.

THIS MUST BE THE LAST TIME. SHE **MUST** BE SATISFIED WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE EXPERIMENT.



IT WAS A RELATIVELY SIMPLE MATTER TO OBTAIN A FRESH BRAIN, IF ONE KNEW THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO ASK. BUT ON THE WAY HOME...



SLOWLY. ERIC RETURNED HE KNEW --OR AT LEAST HE THOUGHT HE KNEW WHAT SHE WOULD DO.





HEDVIG WASTED NO TIME. SHE IMMEDIATELY TOOK ERIC'S BODY TO THE LABORATORY AND BEGAN THE OPERATION...



HEDVIG WORKED FEVERISHLY. SHE DISPOSED OF ERIC'S TWISTED LITTLE BODY, AND BROUGHT THE NEW ONE TO LIFE.



HEDVIG,  
HEDVIG  
--WHY  
DID YOU  
DO THIS  
--THIS  
THING?

I HAVE GIVEN YOU A  
NEW, STRONG BODY, ERIC!  
A BEAUTIFUL BODY, ONE  
I ASSEMBLED FOR YOU.  
A BEAUTIFUL BODY.



NO, HEDVIG-- I'M  
HIDEOUS, MORE HIDEOUS  
THAN I WAS BEFORE!



I LOVE YOU,  
I LOVE YOU,  
I LOVE YOU...

DEAR LORD,  
HEDVIG--  
DON'T YOU  
REALIZE  
WHAT  
YOU'VE  
DONE?



I HATE YOU! I HAVE  
ALWAYS HATED YOU! I  
STAYED WITH YOU, I KNOW  
NOW, ONLY OUT OF A TWISTED  
DESIRE TO HUMILIATE  
MYSELF, TO MAKE MY  
LOVE AS DISTORTED  
AS MY BODY!

NO--ERIC--  
DON'T HURT ME.  
I LOVE YOU,  
I LOVE YOU...

YOU'RE HURTING STOP...  
AAAHHHGHUH!

WHY, HEDVIG, YOU LOVE ME. THIS IS YOUR LOVER TALKING.



ERIC'S MISPLACED MIND HAD GONE. HE THOUGHT ONLY OF REVENGE, REVENGE ON HEDVIG KROLLEK, THE ONLY PERSON WHO HAD MEANT ANYTHING TO HIM, AND THE PERSON WHO HAD KILLED HIM.

HEDVIG, YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL, SO--DEAD. I SAID I'D LOVE YOU UNTIL I DIED, AND YOU KILLED ME. NOW YOU'RE DEAD. BUT I KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH DEAD THINGS...



GOODBYE HEDVIG MY LOVELY...



ERIC WAS NOT TOO INSANE TO KNOW WHERE THE EXPLOSIVES WERE; HE THREW THE SWITCH THAT STARTED THE FUSE.



POOR OLD ERIC--WENT ALL TO PIECES JUST WHEN HEDVIG STARTED GETTING HOT FLASHES FOR HIM... GUESS WE CAN'T **FLAME** HIM CAN WE?

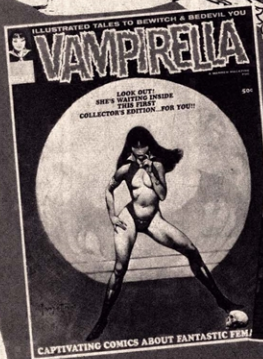




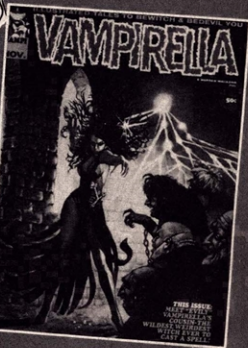
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YOUR **VENOMOUS VIXEN**, **VAMPIRELLA**, HAS A REAL **WEB** OF WICKEDNESS TO SPIN FOR YOU THIS TIME! BUT, IF IN **SPIDER** MY WARNING YOU INSIST ON READING THIS **AWFUL MAW-FULL**, THEN GO TO YOUR **WEB-STERS** AND LOOK UP THE DEADFINITION OF "ARACHNID" BEFORE I RETELL THE **CURSE-SORY** RHYME THAT BEGINS...

**COME INTO MY PARLOR!**

AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: A FEAT UNPARALLELED IN CIRCUS HISTORY! MISS ARACHNA, WILL WALK THE HIGH WIRE ON HER TOES ONLY! NO NET!!

SHE...SHE'S BEAUTIFUL!  
I MUST MEET SUCH  
A WOMAN!

THEY'RE SPELLBOUND!  
IF THEY ONLY KNEW HOW  
VERY EASY THIS IS FOR ME!





... PLEASE! I HOPE YOU WON'T THINK ME FORWARD, BUT I SAW YOUR ACT TONIGHT, AND I WAS FASCINATED!

WHY THANK YOU!

YOUR SKILL, YOUR STRENGTH, I'VE NEVER MET SUCH A WOMAN, AND I WANTED TO!

THAT SOUNDS PERFECT... YOU'VE GOT QUITE A LARGE TRAILER!



YES, IT IS... FOLLOW ME, PLEASE!



FUNNY THE TRAILER LOOKED MUCH LARGER FROM OUTSIDE!

WHY... ER... YES! THAT DOOR BEHIND YOU LEADS TO A SMALL LABORATORY! SCIENCE IS MY HOBBY, BUT THE COFFEE IS BOILING ALREADY!

SCIENCE? I'VE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN SCIENCE... MAY I SEE YOUR LABORATORY?

**NO!** I MEAN I NEVER SHOW IT TO ANYONE... IT IS MY LITTLE SECRET!... BUT IT IS GETTING LATE! WE PERFORMERS MUST GET OUR SLEEP, YOU KNOW!



I'LL BE BLUNT WITH YOU! I **MUST** SEE YOU AGAIN!

YOU'VE BEEN HONEST WITH ME, SO I WILL BE WITH YOU! I DO NOT ENTER INTO FRIENDSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS! I AM A WOMAN WITH A SECRET... A SECRET WHICH MUST BE KEPT!

I WILL NOT PRY INTO YOUR SECRET... AND I ASK NO PROMISES FROM YOU! ONLY YOUR FRIENDSHIP!

ALL... ALL RIGHT, MR. HARTMAN! CALL AGAIN IF YOU LIKE, AND NOW... GOOD NIGHT!

I SHOULD HAVE SENT HIM AWAY FOR GOOD! I MUST NOT EVER HARM ANYONE ELSE! **EVER!**



JIM HARTMAN DID CALL AGAIN...  
TO WATCH HER PERFORM...



FASCINATING! I  
NEVER TIRE OF  
WATCHING THAT  
WONDERFUL WOMAN!

...AND VISITS HER TRAILER  
AFTERWARDS...

I'VE CONFESSED I'M  
FALLING FOR YOU... WON'T  
YOU SHARE YOUR  
LABORATORY SECRET  
WITH ME NOW?

I THINK IT'S BEST  
IF I DON'T! IT'S  
FOR YOUR OWN  
GOOD!



PLEASE...TRUST ME! WE MUST  
LEARN TO CONFIDE IN EACH  
OTHER!

...ALL RIGHT,  
I'LL SHOW YOU!

I'VE BEEN CARRYING ON  
THESE DESPERATE  
EXPERIMENTS FOR YEARS!

EXPERIMENTS?  
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...



SPIDERS! NOTHING BUT  
DROVES OF SPIDERS!

YES! SPIDERS ARE OF  
PARTICULAR INTEREST!  
DO THEY DISGUST YOU?



NO! NOTHING ABOUT YOU COULD  
EVER DISGUST ME! I WANT  
YOU TO MARRY ME.

BUT...BUT WHY NOT?  
DON'T YOU CARE  
FOR ME?

NO, NEVER!



OH, IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW  
MUCH! THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN  
UNABLE TO SEND YOU AWAY,  
IN MY WEAKNESS! I AM ACCURSED  
AND CANNOT MARRY!  
DON'T ASK ME WHY!



BUT I MUST ASK! IF YOU BEAR AN  
AWFUL SECRET, YOU MUST SHARE  
IT SOMETIME OR GO MAD!

...ALL RIGHT! I *WILL*  
SHOW YOU!



GASP! NO! NO!  
YOUR HANDS!...  
THEY'RE LIKE  
A...A...



...A *SPIDER'S*  
BUT HOW...?

...YEARS AGO I WAS  
A YOUNG RESEARCH  
SCIENTIST...



...I WAS PARTICULARLY  
INTERESTED IN SPIDERS...  
THEIR GREAT STRENGTH  
AND AGILITY...

...I WORKED FOR YEARS, AND FINALLY  
I EXTRACTED IT... A CHEMICAL  
HORMONE THAT GAVE SPIDERS  
THEIR ABILITIES!

...I DECIDED TO TRY IT  
ON AN ANIMAL...



IF I COULD DISCOVER WHAT  
GIVES THEM THESE ABILITIES  
AND ISOLATE IT, WHAT A GIFT  
TO MANKIND IT WOULD BE!

THIS IS IT!  
I KNOW IT!

IF IT WORKS ON THIS DOG,  
THE BENEFITS TO MANKIND  
WILL BE ENDLESS!

...THE RESULTS WERE  
ASTOUNDING!

...UNFORTUNATELY THE DOG WAS  
RUN OVER AND KILLED BY A  
CAR SOON AFTER!

...IF THE DOG HAD LIVED, I'D  
HAVE SEEN THE EFFECTS  
THAT FOLLOWED!

INCREDIBLE! IT CLIMBED  
THE TELEPHONE POLE AND  
NOW WALKS ON THE WIRES!  
JUST LIKE A SPIDER!

OH WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER!  
THE SERUM IS A SUCCESS!  
AT LEAST I'VE PROVEN THAT!

THIS WILL PROVE THE  
SERUM'S EFFECT ON A  
HUMAN, AND THEN I'LL  
ASTOUND THE WORLD!

...AT FIRST, I WAS DELIGHTED! BUT  
TWO WEEKS LATER, SOME OTHER  
EFFECTS APPEARED ...

MY HANDS! %GASP% THEY  
LOOK LIKE...LIKE A SPIDERS!

ANYWAY, YOU CAN SEE WHY I  
CAN WALK THE HIGH WIRE SO  
EASILY...AND WHY I CAN NEVER  
MARRY!

BUT WHY? I DON'T  
CARE! I LOVE YOU ANYWAY!  
AND I'M WEALTHY! PERHAPS  
WITH MY MONEY FOR  
RESEARCH, YOU'LL FIND  
THE CURE!

NO! ...YOU CAN'T  
MEAN IT!

NOW THAT I KNOW OF YOUR  
BRILLIANCE AND COURAGE,  
I LOVE YOU EVEN MORE!  
MARRY ME! MARRY ME  
TOMORROW!

MY SPIDER SERUM  
HAD GIVEN ME A  
SPIDER'S PROWESS,  
AS WELL AS A  
FEW OTHER...  
ATTRIBUTES! I  
CUT MYSELF  
OFF FROM  
EVERYONE  
WHO KNEW ME  
...WORE GLOVES  
...JOINED THE  
CIRCUS TO RAISE  
MONEY TO  
CONTINUE MY  
RESEARCH,  
HOPING FOR A  
CURE! BUT IT'S  
USELESS!

ALL...ALL RIGHT! I  
KNOW I SHOULDN'T,  
BUT I'M UNABLE  
TO RESIST!





WELL, DARLING,  
WHAT DO YOU THINK ?

IT'S LOVELY! I THINK  
I'M GOING TO BE  
VERY HAPPY HERE!

I KNEW I WAS RIGHT!  
I'M GLAD I GOT YOU TO  
GIVE IN AND MARRY ME!

OH, HOW I WISH YOU *HADN'T*!  
YOU SEE, MOST TIMES I DON'T  
CARE, BUT YOU ARE SO KIND  
AND GENEROUS THAT I REALLY  
DIDN'T WANT TO HURT YOU!

HURT ME?  
I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND...

I COULDN'T HELP MY-  
SELF!...REMEMBER I  
TOLD YOU THAT THE  
SERUM HAD GIVEN  
ME A FEW *OTHER*  
*SPIDER ATTRIBUTES*?

ONE OF THOSE 'OTHER  
ATTRIBUTES' WAS THE  
MATING INSTINCT!

YOU MEAN THAT YOUR ACTIONS ARE TO SOME  
EXTENT CONTROLLED BY INSTINCTS?...  
WELL, I'M STILL GLAD!

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL! YOU SEE  
THE SPIDER I USED FOR MY  
EXPERIMENTS WAS THE  
*BLACK WIDOW*! BESIDE THE  
INSTINCT TO FIND A HUSBAND,  
THE BLACK WIDOW ALSO...

...DEVOURS HER MATE!

WHAT A DARLING DINNER OUR  
DANGEROUS DAMSEL HAD!  
NOT A BAD IDEA,...BUT I SO  
MUCH PREFER *JUST* THE  
BLOOD! ANYWAY THIS TERR-  
WEBLE TALE HAS AN IMPORT-  
TANT MORAL: NEVER TRUST  
A HAIRY WOMAN TIGHTROPE  
WALKER! IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE  
ME, ASK MISS MUFFET!

EEEEAAARRGH

"TILL DEATH DO US PART"... SEVEN HUSBANDS NEVER KNEW HOW TRUE THOSE WORDS WOULD PROVE TO BE TILL THEY WERE FORCED INTO A DEADLY GAME OF...

# RUN FOR YOUR WIFE!



AN ALL EXPENSE-PAID TRIP TO SLOVANIA. THEY WERE TO BE THE GUESTS OF COUNT TSAROV, AT HIS CASTLE IN THE MOUNTAINS. FOR EACH WIFE HE INCLUDED A \$1,000 BILL TO SPEND AS SHE PLEASED.







TOO BAD OUR PILOT DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH!

**BENEATH THE GOTHIC CASTLE OF COUNT TSARDV, STRANGE DITCHES CIRCLED THE MOUNTAIN WHO HAP PUT THEM THERE?**

WELCOME! THE OTHERS HAVE PRECEDED YOU. WE WILL SOON ALL MEET FOR DINNER, PLEASE COME IN!



**AFTER DINNER THE GUESTS ALL RETIRED...**



...LITTLE REALIZING THEY WERE BEING WATCHED BY SECRET EYES!

**AAAAH!**



YOU'RE THE BEST-LOOKING GAL HERE.

FLATTERY WILL GET YOU SOMEWHERE!



**IN THE PRIVACY OF THE COUNT'S ROOM A REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION WAS TAKING PLACE.**



AN INCREDIBLE  
TRANSFORMATION!  
BENEATH THE WRAPPINGS,  
"DR. JEKYLL" WAS A  
MISS HYDE! THE COUNT  
WAS A NO ACCOUNT  
COUNTLESS!



THE NEXT MORNING THE GUESTS  
ASSEMBLED IN THE LIVING ROOM.



SUDDENLY, THE POLES AT EITHER END OF THE COURT SHOT UP  
LIKE EXPRESS TRAINS, DRAGGING BEHIND THEM A NET OF  
METAL LINKS!







PLEASE  
EXIT  
QUICKLY.

THE BE-  
WILDERED  
MEN FOUND  
THEMSELVES  
LINED UP  
AT THE  
MOUNTAIN'S  
EDGE.  
THEIR WIVES  
FRIGHTENED



STEADY,  
HOUNDS!



NOW! OVER  
THE TOP AND  
DON'T STOP TILL  
YOU'RE AT THE  
BOTTOM... IF  
YOU EVER  
WANT TO SEE  
YOUR WIVES  
AGAIN!



CAN HE  
MEAN  
IT?

IS HE  
MAD!

GOOD  
GOD!

GO!



NO! I WON'T  
PLAY YOUR MAD  
GAME!



BUT THE UNLEASHED  
DOGS QUICKLY CHANGED  
HIS MIND.



THANK  
GOD!

DOWN THE MOUNTAIN-  
SIDE THEY SCRAMBLED  
TO WHAT DOOM THEY  
COULD NOT GUESS.



I DON'T THINK  
I'M GOING TO  
MAKE IT!



GOOD  
GOD...  
NO!



FOUR MEN APPROACHED  
TRENCH #2. WHICH ONE  
OF THEM WOULD IT  
CLAIM?



HELLPPP!



HELEN  
GYAHHH...





HIDDEN LANDMINES WERE EVERYWHERE TO DISCOURAGE LAGARDS. EXPLODABLE AT ANY DISTANCE BY TSAROV!



BUT... BUT... THERE'S NOTHING IN IT! I'M SAFE!



SAFE!



MY GOD! RED ANTS! I'M BEING EATEN ALIVE!

AARRGH!

OH, NO!



MARK! MARK! I'M COMING TO YOU!



STAY BACK YOU FOOL! I HAVE OTHER PLANS FOR YOU!



FIGHT THEM, MARK! I'M COMING!







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NEXT...

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